

Religious Department

Rev. J. W. MALCOLM, Editor.

NEARER CHRIST.—One of the most cheering thoughts to the humble Christian, is that Jesus is ever present.—When trials and temptations lure him from the path of rectitude; when fierce storms arise, and clouds of doubt, affections, or despair almost hide from his longing eyes the blessed Sun of Righteousness, a voice comes from the gathering gloom, "Fear not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God." Then by faith and prayer drawing nearer the Divine One, he is led to exclaim, as light gleams through the murky folds, "The Lord is my strength." And day by day he lives near Him,—so near in deed that his thoughts and desires are in accordance with Divine will—many temptations will be avoided; many dark clouds will vanish ere they cast their shadows o'er him. God grant that soon, very soon, the day may come when every professed follower of Christ shall demonstrate by holy living and correct example, that their life is a joy and peace unknown to the gay votaries of pleasure and fashion. What though it cost an effort, much pain, weariness, and many tears, sweet will be the recompense, rich reward; for "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." Blessed promise. Surely, it ought to encourage all to draw nearer the throne of grace, whence rich supplies of heavenly wisdom are vouchsafed the fainting soul.

ELIJA ELSTON.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

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A SCANDAL TO CHRISTIANITY.—The missionaries of the London Missionary Society who are introducing Christian teachers among the Papuans of New Guinea, already find their efforts thwarted by the conduct of the pearl fishers from nominally Christian countries, who plunder the plantations of the natives along the coast. In many heathen countries the misdeeds of men who have been better taught have been the greatest obstacles to progress of Christianity.

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THE SAVIOR'S CALL.

For the Monitor.

There's a soft gentle voice, which is pleading in a sad, sweet, musical strain; At the heart's beloved door it is knocking, Where we hear it again, and again. Oftentimes in the silent watches of the night, When the bright world is veiled from our view, The voice of the Savior still echoes, "There's work in the vineyard for you."

There are perishing souls in the vineyard, Who for want of the aid you can give, In despair are fast sinking and dying; Precious souls who may joyfully live, O haste, quickly haste, and give them the life that's in the vineyard for you. For life's fleeting spark's quenched by death, O haste, and give them the life that's in the vineyard for you. Even down to their last feeble breath.

The vines in the dust low are trailing, The foliage is withered and brown, The soft clinging tendrils are drooping, The hedge, it is fast breaking down. The land of the ruthless destroyer, Is stealing the young grapes away; Arise ye, and go to the vineyard, And labor, while yet it is day.

There's work to be done in the vineyard, The vines must be pruned, not be dressed, And the rich grapes must be gathered, Sit not down to idly to rest. While the voice of the Master is calling, In accents so tenderly sweet; Work, although but a few rich, ripe clusters You can gather to lay at his feet.

There are hands that are weary with labor, Willing hands that are cold and brown, And are longing its weight to lay down, Though they have white hands to their ben, Never mind if they have withered, For they have still still faith love close, Though they have as brown as the soil.

In the vineyard are fruit and blessing, For the pathway is rough where they stray, Thy hand can remove from before them, Many sharp, piercing thorns in their way, Thy hand can remove the rough path of their journey, And thy hand will guide them, and all the, Thy hand will not go forth all alone.

There are feet that are straying from Jesus, That have lost in the darkness their guide, And are wandering far from his love, Away from his dear bleeding side. Go, show them the light of his love, And let them see the light of his love, Which is shining from Heaven's bright dome.

There are eyes growing dim from long watching, For the light on the far distant shore, How they long for a glimpse of the loved one, Who in safety have passed on before, O an angel they feel at the rattle, As their hearts are in loneliness beating, As they long for the light of his love, Go, show them the light of his love, Which is shining from Heaven's bright dome.

They saw not that light, white sails were gleaming, With a light from 'H' Heavenly Land, And they heard not the soft thrilling music, From the harp of the angel band, And their hearts are in loneliness beating, As they long for the light of his love, Go, show them the light of his love, Which is shining from Heaven's bright dome.

Go to them; and in tenderness whisper Gentle words of a love that's true, Which can comfort in every affliction, And go and point them to Jesus above, Guard them if thou canst from the mourner; Keep words never bring a relief, Words of kindness if carefully spoken, Are but mockery unto their grief.

There are hearts that are longing for kindness, There are hearts that are longing to know, That the stiller out of affliction, Still may find them to Jesus above, And to his heart in sympathy beating, Other hearts may respond to their own, Who would not mind the words of truth and love, Almost feel that they're traveling alone.

There are hearts that are longing to be saved, Down beneath the dark weight of despair, Their hearts are in loneliness beating, As they long for the light of his love, Go, show them the light of his love, Which is shining from Heaven's bright dome.

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Agricultural Department

I. D. COLLINS, Editor.

DRAINING LAND.

We find in the Mirror and Farmer a report of a discussion by the Knott-Farmers' Club, on the subject of undraining in which Mr. Warren Brown of Hampton Falls, remarked that the subject of draining was of much importance. Said there were many ways to drain an estate; a heavy mortgage, bad habits, and mismanagement would generally drain a place pretty effectually. But the most profitable way, and the one he would recommend, was to dig and lay tile in wet land. Low lands are rich from the wash of higher ground, but will not produce profitably until the water coming from springs can be carried off in drains. Open drains are the simplest and the least satisfactory. He had taken pains to draw in one hundred loads to fill up a single ditch. It is much trouble to mow and rake about ten acres in and stop the water, and grass, weeds, sticks and leaves collect and fill up the drain. Begun with stone drains, but they are not sure. Did not think stone should be used where tile can be obtained and if there is any other place where small stones can be put to get them out of the way. Tile takes less digging and will last a lifetime. Laid drains some time ago, and they are open now. There is great importance respecting the operations of tile. He thought tile reduced or lowered the water level, and water comes up and runs through the joints mostly, though tile will fill if both ends are stopped up tight. Tarred paper is used to lay over the joints of tile. To keep out sand. Has used 15,000 tiles. On three acres of tiled land he cut seven tons of good hay in a year, where the water used to be over the tops of his boots, and the land was as near nothing as could be.—a nice place for snakes and frogs, and so near with old roots, stumps and logs that his farm thought the devil must have broke his apron strings somewhere there. Can now show with horses on that piece as well as on any place. Said this sometimes comes in after draining, but the out after a few years. They leave the soil in good condition, so that after all they are rather a benefit to the land. Wet seasons kill out thistles. Drained land is porous and not affected by drought. If outlet is good, three or four inches fall to the hundred feet will do, tho' the more fall the better. Has never used collar tile, but thinks he should like them best; some of them are three feet long, other pieces are shorter, made of cement with collars to fit round the joints to keep them in place. Grasses will not live with their roots in water. Said Miller, of Portsmouth, drained forty acres of the meadow kind of wet land and made it like a garden.—made a fortune out of it. Had some faith in John Godfrey's way of finding springs, says Godfrey could tell where to dig for springs, but could not tell exactly how deep below the surface they would be found. The hard-pan in land if once dug through never becomes solid again. A board may be laid under tile where it is soft or sandy. Put a screen over the outlet of tile, and even then small frogs will sometimes get in and have to be taken out. Where a number of branches meet put a keg, that the water will come over the top, and be watched. Begin at the highest point to lay tile. Tile may be used to drain cellars. Two courses were put down in a street in Exeter, one in each wheel track. Worked well. Many took the trouble to fill up wet places; he thought in most cases it would be better to lower the water by draining. Many pieces of land have wet corners or wet spots in them that by draining can be made like other parts, and may be worked on at the same time. Drains laid three feet deep may be thirty feet apart, and four feet deep, fifty feet apart. Three-inch tile is too large for branches; like the 1-1/2 inch for many purposes. These last cost \$18 or \$20 per thousand; three-inch tile cost \$30 per thousand; they make better tile at Exeter than formerly; three-inch tile will carry twice as much water as two-inch.

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OLD FARMER GRAY GETS PHOTOGRAPHED.

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SNOW FLAKES.

I. D. COLLINS, Editor.

A young lady translated the C. O. D. on express packages into Call on Dad. A Memphis man called another a liar only a second before his death. Clergymen, like brakenud, do a good deal of coupling. The path of glory which leads but to the grave—allopath and homeopath. Three men went off via nitro-glycerine, at Poughkeepsie, on Monday. Counter irritants—People who examine the whole stock and buy nothing. A Wisconsin deaf man recovered his hearing on being chased by a mad dog. The Englishman who called the Hoosac tunnel a "blasted hole" was literally correct. The United States has 136 colleges for women. Yet the dear creatures are unhappy. The Tribune has detected fraud in asphaltum seed. This comes from what it knows about agriculture. A young woman is the efficient engineer at a manufacturing establishment in Boston. A woman is said to act as conductor of a passenger train on the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad. A fashionable young lady of New York boasted of having a dress on which were two hundred yards of lace trimming. The Cincinnati and Newport bridge commenced its career romantically; the first to cross it being an eloping couple. A poem 3600 feet long was sent to a New Orleans paper with a request to "please publish." Converted Indians sing "Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep," with warwhoop accompaniment. The effect is said to be very soothing. Pork is lower in Portsmouth than it has been since 1861.—[N. H. Monitor.] Consumers will not grudge at that.—[Boston Post.] An ungallant Minnesota paper publishes the names of 108 old maids and widows who are glad it is Leap Year. One of the Western railroads has a female locomotive-engineer of the beautiful blonde order. She makes the sparks fly. Hymenial.—In Henry county, on the 28 ultimo, Mr. T. Winkle to Miss Fannie Starr, T. Winkle, T. Winkle, little Starr.—[Savannah News.] An English youth, who threatened to kill his mother because she wouldn't give him his trousers, now pants for revenge in jail. An inquisitive Indian placed an obstruction on a railway track in order to "see how high a locomotive would jump when going at full speed." Some one says that the lion and the lamb may lie down together in this world, but when the lion gets up it will be hard work for the lamb. A young man sometimes gives a look of hair to his sweetheart before he marries her. After marriage she helps her selfish without scissors. Men of genius are often dull and inert in society; as the blazing meteor, when it descends to the earth, is only a stone. The following sentence of only thirty letters contains all the letters of the alphabet: "John quickly extemporized five tow bags." An oyster, it is said, contains as much nourishment as a slice of roast beef, and this is the reason they are recommended for invalids. New Jersey has a good woman who, during the illness of her husband, dresses up in his clothes and drives his milk cart about her house. A romantic couple, not a great way from here, named their infant daughter Carissa. That was eighteen years ago, and the boys are all at it now. Live as in God's sight, mindful of thy position as a child of God, and as a servant of Jesus. Meditate on His Word; pray always. A feeble reed becomes in the hand of the Omnipotence a rod of iron with which the mountains may be threshed, or the nations dashed in pieces. A Georgia eagle, totally devoid of felicity, endeavored to carry off a cat, but the latter came up to the scratch, and the eagle was glad to drop the subject. St. Louis has a heroine who rushed up a fire ladder into a burning house, rescued her sonneteer lover, without experiencing any damage further than a slightly scorched chin. "Little boy, can I go through this shadow?" said a child, who had just been fashionably dressed lady. "Per'aps so; a load of hay went through this morning," was the horrid reply. A Southern paper feelingly remarks: "A negro and two young mules were drowned in the river yesterday. The mules were remarkably fine animals and could easily be replaced." When any contagious disease prevails among Indians, and their medicine man does not stop its ravages, they shoot him. It might improve public health if the practice was followed by civilized society to some extent. As it takes 65,000 cochineal insects to make a pound, and as 1,849,842 pounds were brought into the country last year, 120,239,730,000 mites have given up their lives to color the dresses and cheeks of American ladies. On the night of the 21st the house of Sandy Clayton in Lawrence, Kansas, was burned, and Clayton, his three sons, aged 18 and 4 perished. Mrs. Clayton and her infant were seriously burned, and the mother will probably die. There are rumors of a defensive alliance between Germany and Italy, whereby the possession of Lorraine and Alsace is guaranteed to Germany, and Rome to Italy, and both parties are to unite their arms in case of war. A young fellow at college wrote to his uncle, on whom he entirely depended, "My dear uncle—ready for the needful. Your affectionate nephew." The uncle replied, "Dear nephew—the needful is not ready. Your affectionate uncle." Charles Francis Adams said one day to his son, John Quincy Adams (John was a boy then)—so the story goes—"My son, do you think you know enough to be Governor of Massachusetts?" To which the young gentleman replied: "Well, I probably shall by the time I am elected."

ELIJA ELSTON.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

BAPTISTS.—The Free Will Baptists of Maine have organized a State Mission Society, obtained a charter from the Legislature, and are ready to go to work aiding feeble and destitute churches and establishing new churches.

CONGREGATIONAL.—The Congregationalist gives the following compilation from the statistics of the congregational churches for 1871:

"Of the 38 states and territories reporting churches, Massachusetts has the largest number, 501; Connecticut follows with 292, Illinois with 231, New York with 250, Maine with 259, Iowa with 207, and Vermont with 201; Kansas has 78, Missouri 64, and Nebraska 32; Colorado and Dakota 6 each; and Maryland, Nevada, South Carolina, Alabama, and Wyoming, 1 each. New Hampshire has 58, and Rhode Island 5. The 501 churches in Massachusetts, about one-sixth of the entire number, contributed for benevolent purposes \$339,820.84, or nearly one-third of the entire amount.—The churches of Connecticut come next, with \$262,738.86, and then New York with \$103,400. As to the ministry, there has been a gain during the past year in two directions. Not only is the total number of ministers greater, but the number of ministers not engaged in pastoral work is less than for the preceding year."

ROMAN CATHOLIC.

The Rome correspondent of the Churchman relates the following of Bishop Strossmayer: "On a stay here while traveling for the sake of his health, he was of course received, and graciously, at the Vatican. The Pope, just as might be expected, alluded at first with some reserve to the dissentient part taken by the bishop at the Ecumenical Council, and blandly expressed the hope and anticipation that he would fully retract and laudably submit. Strossmayer answered (and this I learn from an unquestionable source) by supporting firmly, but most respectfully, the opinions he had defended, and declaring the impossibility of conscientious recantation on his part. On this the tone and manner of His Holiness changed, and the audience which was terminated not in the *sancta pace* with which it had opened."

The Pope has had enough of debates with Protestants and has directed that an order be issued forbidding priests to take part in any more affairs of the kind.

REVIVALS IN NORTHERN NEW YORK.

An account is given in the New York Christian Advocate, of a very powerful revival in Northern New York, near the St. Lawrence, in Massena, Potsdam and Malone, which was remarkable for Christian union. The account was given by Phoebe Palmer, who seems to have labored in the revival, although it is not said that she preached. The Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Methodists united in the work. In union they first sought and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Then three meetings were held daily. Scores pledged themselves to rise early, and pray to be directed and aided in selecting persons for whom they might labor, and whom they might invite to the meetings. The persons chosen were then visited. It was said that there was not a house within five miles of Massena, whose inmates had not been visited by some Christian laborer. In this revival hundreds were wrought upon, and hopelessly converted. The same scenes were witnessed at Potsdam and Malone. At a large manufactory, which was visited, the proprietor called all his men together, and lady addressed them, (probably Phoebe Palmer). Cases of conversion of the most striking kind are given. The power of the revival was greatly owing to the union of Christians, and to systematic visitation of extending neighborhoods.

A SCANDAL TO CHRISTIANITY.—The missionaries of the London Missionary Society who are introducing Christian teachers among the Papuans of New Guinea, already find their efforts thwarted by the conduct of the pearl fishers from nominally Christian countries, who plunder the plantations of the natives along the coast. In many heathen countries the misdeeds of men who have been better taught have been the greatest obstacles to progress of Christianity.

God governs the world and we have only to do our duty wisely, and leave the issue to him.

MISCELLANEOUS.

I. D. COLLINS, Editor.

Forty years ago a blooming young girl of 16 married an old man of 60 for his money, expecting that he would soon die and leave her a wealthy young widow. Last week the lady died at the respectable age of 56, leaving a husband aged 100, and four children, to mourn her loss. A lady in Des Moines proposed to a fascinating dry goods clerk. He said, "Ask me," reversing the natural order of things to suit the year. "Ma" was a keen observer, and she saw more fashion than housekeeping in the young lady. She answered "no," and the young lady left disconsolate. A number of the departmental women are applying to the higher government officials for aid in obtaining appointments in the public service of Japan, as teachers. The salary is \$1,500 per annum for three years and expenses thereof and return. Fifteen are wanted and five hundred have already applied. A man working on a farm near Gilson, Ill., was presented by a young lady with a fine plated-bosom shirt, made with an open back. He wore it hide side before for nearly a year before he found out how it worked. On being told his mistake, he remarked that he thought it strange the young woman should put so much work on the back. A woman went to a circus in Terra Haute, Indiana, accompanied by eleven children, and when a neighbor asked her where the old man was, she said he was at home taking care of the children. Another neighbor called at the house, and seeing the old man trying to amuse nine young ones, asked where the old lady was. He said he had let her go to the circus with the children. Let all who are disposed to growl at our too long delayed spring be informed that an old resident of Peoria, Ill., has informed the *Review*, of that town, that in 1822 he reached what is